

# **Compassion to Action: Community Partnerships Making a Difference**

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**CFAES**



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## Session Objectives:

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- Develop an understanding of the needs of each community partner
- Recognize strengths of community partner organizations and entities
- Learn strategies for building successful community partnerships



## Session Objectives:

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- Create an awareness of some potential areas of conflict between community partners
- Recognize a successful community partnership which has initiated a unique approach to helping at-risk youth and families deal with a lack of family stability

## Our Realities:

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- ❑ Scioto County has the highest incarceration rate for drug offenses (37.9) in the state of Ohio, significantly higher than the state average of 6.4. Incarceration rates impact not only the individual being arrested but also other family members including children.
- ❑ Poverty rate for 2011-2015 was 25.3%; 2<sup>nd</sup> highest rate for counties in Ohio; state of Ohio rate for this time period was 15.8%.
- ❑ Unemployment rate for Scioto County in November 2017 was 6.1% compared to the state of Ohio rate of 4.2%.



## Understanding Community Partner Needs:

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- ☐ Addressing critical community issues
- ☐ Demonstrating accountability
- ☐ Reducing duplication of services
- ☐ Establishing partnerships to expand the potential to make a difference



## Identify Strengths of Community Partners:

- ☐ Funding – internal or external
- ☐ Curriculum/Programs – existing or to be developed
- ☐ Participants – youth, adults, target population, general public, etc.
- ☐ Evaluation – what needs to be measured
- ☐ Facilitators – bringing people together to brainstorm solutions



## Strategies to Build Partnerships:

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- ☐ Have open and honest lines of communication between all partners
- ☐ Don't overstate what can be provided
- ☐ Don't over-commit amount of time
- ☐ Complete all tasks as agreed upon



## Potential Areas of Conflict:

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- ☐ Not following through on commitments
- ☐ Not having a thorough understanding of your role
- ☐ Becoming too complacent
- ☐ Failing to provide reports in a timely manner





## Juvenile Court and OSU Extension:

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- ❑ Began with CARTEENS traffic re-education program for youth with first time traffic offenses
- ❑ Team Building activities for teens involved with Juvenile Court system; included time at 4-H Camp with Educators and court personnel
- ❑ Behavior Modification – court ordered teens and parents with sessions on parent education, character education and nutrition education

## Local Schools and OSU Extension:

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- ☐ Real Money, Real World
- ☐ School Enrichment programs
- ☐ Nature education programs in partnership with Shawnee State Park and Scioto County Soil and Water Conservation District
- ☐ Career Education
- ☐ SNAP–Ed programs



## Beginning Steps to “Compassion to Action”

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- ☐ Juvenile Court and OSU Extension personnel met to review Behavior Modification program; felt need to be more proactive instead of a reactive approach
- ☐ Determined need to include school counselors and administrators in partnership
- ☐ Shifted focus to younger at-risk youth not currently involved with court system

## “Compassion to Action” - Planning

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- ☐ Lunch meeting with all program partners to discuss target audience, curriculum, etc.
- ☐ Identified program structure
- ☐ Agreed on incentives for program participants
- ☐ Set program dates for each school



## “Compassion to Action” - Implementation

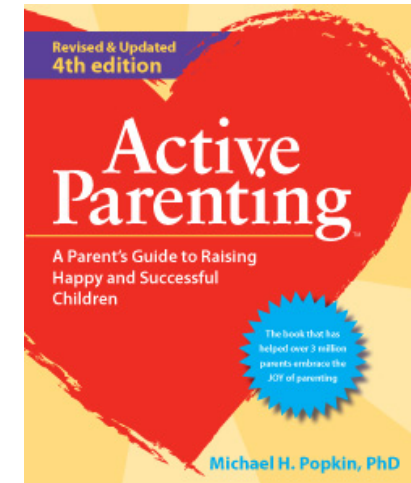
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- ❑ Five-week program; 2 hours per session
- ❑ Evaluation data collected from both youth and adult participants (pre/post or retrospective)
- ❑ Family meal provided at end of each session and families were encouraged to eat together
- ❑ Celebration event held on last evening of program to recognize participants

# “Compassion to Action” – Parent Education

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- ☐ The Active Parent
- ☐ Cooperation and Communication
- ☐ Responsibility and Discipline
- ☐ Building Courage and Self-Esteem
- ☐ Understanding and Redirecting Misbehavior
- ☐ Active Parenting for School Success



## “Compassion to Action” – Character Education

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- ☐ Self-Esteem
- ☐ Friends
- ☐ Family
- ☐ School
- ☐ Addiction
- ☐ Career Readiness and Goal Setting



## **“Compassion to Action” – Nutrition Education**

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- ☐ Balance My Day – curriculum for grades 3-5
- ☐ Eat, Play, Grow – curriculum for preschool and kindergarten youth
- ☐ Focused on individual food groups
- ☐ Included activities and food sampling



## “Compassion to Action” - Incentives

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- ☐ Family Meal each evening
- ☐ Fuel Cards
- ☐ \$100 Gift Cards
- ☐ Overnight stay at State Park Lodge with meals and activities included



# “Compassion to Action” - Impacts

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## Active Parenting

School	Question	Pre	Post	Change
Minford	I know how to build courage and self-esteem in my child.	2.0	3.75	87.5%
Bloom Vernon	I know how to build courage and self-esteem in my child.	2.77	3.81	37.5%
Valley	I know how to build courage and self-esteem in my child.	2.91	3.82	31.3%
Northwest	I know how to build courage and self-esteem in my child.	2.88	3.67	27.4%

# “Compassion to Action” - Impacts

## It Begins with Me

School	Question	Pre	Post	Change
Minford	Other people should not control who I become.	2.83	4.0	41.3%
Bloom Vernon	Other people should not control who I become.	3.2	3.6	12.5%
Valley	Other people should not control who I become.	3.85	3.62	-5.9%
Northwest	Other people should not control who I become.	3.08	3.57	15.9%

# “Compassion to Action”- Impacts

“There is comfort in knowing you are not alone.”  
Parent Participant

“I learned that I can create my destiny and not let others negatively influence my life.”  
Youth participant

“Compassion to Action bridged a gap between parents/caregivers and our school. Our kids are asking when we will do it again!”

Melyssa Shannon  
Counselor, Northwest Local Schools

“I have enjoyed the collaboration with Ohio State University Extension and the local schools. The Compassion to Action Program has been a huge success.”  
Judge Alan Lemons

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"People don't care how much  
you know until they know  
how much you care"

John Maxwell

## “Compassion to Action” – Lessons Learned

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- ☐ Program needed to be expanded to 6 weeks
- ☐ Targeted audience needed to be clearly defined
- ☐ Recruitment may take longer than anticipated
- ☐ Effort must be made in order for each series to be successful
- ☐ Eating pizza twice a week for 6 weeks gets old

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